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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,688	03/30/2001	Koji Naito	018987-032	8787

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EXAMINER

THOMPSON, JAMES A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/29/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 28 April 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding page 2, line 2 to page 3, line 10:

Applicant argues that Evans (USPN 6,577,746 B1) does not teach that the location information concerns the location of the watermark, *i.e.* the location of where the additional information is stored in the original image.

Examiner replies that column 2, lines 61-65 of Evans, as cited in the final rejection of 27 December 2007, states “[i]n addition to detecting the ID of any watermark in the scanned image data, the photocopier’s watermark detector also discerns the placement of the watermarked picture within the document image, and its state (e.g., size, rotation, etc.), and produces corresponding state information.” In other words, when the photocopier scans the document image, the photocopier's watermark detector determines the location of the watermark within the document that is being scanned. Further, column 2, lines 25-30 of Evans, which were also cited, states that processor initiates contact with a remote server upon the detection of the watermark and sends the identity of the detected watermark. Therefore, the watermark and the other detected information is stored. Thus, the detected pieces of additional information are stored with other various pieces of information, including the location of the additional (watermark) information.

Regarding page 3, lines 11-17:

The portion of Evans cited by Examiner (column 3, lines 47-52 of Evans) states that the watermarking of the picture allows for a substitution [of the watermark] of a latest version whenever the document is scanned for printing. While the picture itself may also be updated, the watermark image may also separately be updated *via* substitution to the latest version of the watermark. Further evidence of this is shown in column 2, lines 7-9 and lines 25-35 of Evans which demonstrate that the detected watermark (31), if found in the remote server database, is substituted with a pristine copy of the watermark (38) which is used for photocopying.

Regarding page 3, line 18 to page 4, line 11:

Applicant’s arguments are predicated on the assumption that Evans does not teach the location of where the additional information is stored in the original image. However, as set forth above, Examiner has demonstrated that Evans does in fact teach the claimed stored location information.

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Regarding page 4, line 12 to page 5, line 8:

Examiner has demonstrated that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as set forth in the office action of 27 December 2007 was proper. The remaining independent claims cannot therefore be deemed allowable merely due to similar reasons. Further, the dependent claims cannot therefore be deemed allowable merely due to their respective dependencies.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Thompson whose telephone number is (571)272-7441. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Edward L. Coles/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/J. A. T./
James A. Thompson
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

19 May 2008